However, private cokeries unit manufacture some quantity of low ash coke with ash content of 10% which coke is being supplied to some manufacturers of Electrodes and Carbide.

(c) and (d) Low ash coke is not manufactured in any subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. Coal Companies under CIL produce hard coke. The pricing and distribution of hard coke has since been dereguilated. Production and Marketing of the same would be decided by coal companies based on the market trend and on commercial considerations.

[Translation]

Premium on new notes

*396. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of substantial premium on new one, two, five, ten and fifty rupee notes and one, two and five rupee coins, as reported in "Dainik Jagaran" dated the February 21, 1997.

(b) if so, the reasons for the non-availability of new currency notes and coins in the banks; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make the currency notes and coins available in the market ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to capacity constraints, the note printing presses and the mints in the country are not able to fully meet the ever-increasing requirement of fresh notes and coins by the Reserve Bank of India. However, the Government have taken following steps for increasing availability of currency notes and coins :-

1. Modernisation of the existing two note printing presses at Nasik and Dewas.

2. Setting up of two more note printing presses, one at Salboni (West Bengal) and the other at Mysore (Karnataka) under the control of Reserve Bank of India.

3. Modernisation of Government of India mints at Mumbai, Calcutta and Hyderabad.

4. Coinisation of lower denomination notes of rupee 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 and diverting the capacity so released for printing notes of higher denominations.

5. Resorting to import of 3,600 million pieces of printed notes as well as 1000 million pieces of coins, as a one time measure.

[English]

Export of computer software

*397. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of growth registered in the export of electronics and computer software during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the above period;

(c) whether the exporters of software are facing a number of problems in exporting their items;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these items and redress the grievances of the exporters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (e) The electronics and computer software sector is a sector which has registered consistent growth in the last few years. The percentage of growth registered in the export of electronics and computer software and foreign exchange earned during each of the last three years, regionwise, is explained in Statement attached.

Government have set up the Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council for the promotion of electronics and computer software and for advising Government about the difficulties faced by this sector. As and when a problem is brought to the notice of the Government, the same is taken up on priority basis for resolution. The Government have also set up a Standing Committee on Electronics and Software under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministy of Commerce to deal with the issues which require a coordinated response by the Government. Other steps that are taken for promotion of exports include participation in exclusive Indian Trade Shows/International Exhibitions, visits of business delegations, etc. General measures include the operationalization of the Electronic Hardware Technology Park Scheme (EHTP), Software Technology Park Scheme (STP), which are export oriented schemes designed to boost exports.

Statement

Export of Computer Software & service during last 3 years and the major destinations

(1993-94 to 1995-96)

Destination	1993-94		1994-95				1995-96			
	Rs. Cr.	Us $ min.	Rs. Cr.	Us $ min.	% Age Growth		Rs. Cr.	Us $ min.	%Age Growth	
					In Rupee Term	In US$ Term			In Rupee Term	In US$ Term
USA & Canada	682.07	220.02	787.76	254.12	15.50	15.50	1638.17	489.01	107.95	92.43
Latin America	2.96	0.95	5.56	1.76	84.46	84.46	6.08	1.81	11.36	2.84
Europe (EC countries)	179.83	58.01	329.57	106.31	83.27	83.27	490.70	146.48	48.89	37.79
Europe (Non EC-countries)	53.65	17.31	79.62	25.69	48.41	48.41	82.06	24.50	3.06	–4.60
Russia & C.I.S Countries	1.94	0.63	53.30	17.19	2647.42	2647.42	28.33	8.46	–46.85	–50.79
African Countries	10.61	3.42	14.49	4.67	36.57	36.57	24.04	7.18	65.91	53.75
Middle East Countries	17.54	5.66	21.32	6.88	21.55	21.55	21.87	6.53	2.58	–5.09
Singapore Hongkong & other South Asian Countries	37.74	12.18	121.39	39.16	221.65	221.65	283.80	84.71	133.79	116.34
Japan Korea & other Far East Countries	26.21	8.45	40.74	13.14	55.44	55.44	40.67	12.14	–0.17	7.61
Australia & other Oceanic Countries	7.45	2.40	20.35	6.55	173.15	173.15	34.28	10.23	68.45	55.71
Total	1020.00	329.03	1474.00	475.78	44.51	44.51	2650.00	791.05	79.78	66.37

Average Exchange Rate 1993-94 & 1994-95 1 US$ = Rs. 31.00 1995-96 1 US$ = Rs. 33.50

(Source Electronics & Computer Software Export Promotion Council)

Statement

Export of Electronic Hardware during last 3 years and the major destinations

(1993-94 to 1995-96)

Destination	1993-94		1994-95				1995-96			
	Rs. Cr.	Us $ min.	Rs. Cr.	Us $ min.	% Age Growth		Rs. Cr.	Us $ min.	%Age Growth	
					In Rupee Term	In US$ Term			In Rupee Term	In US$ Term
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
USA & Canada	297.60	96.01	266.30	85.19	–10.52	–10.52	428.00	127.76	60.72	48.71
Latin America	6.23	2.01	8.57	2.75	37.56	37.56	3.11	0.93	–63.71	–66.18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Europe (EC countries)	235.87	76.08	294.05	94.35	24.67	24.67	603.46	180.14	105.22	89.92
Europe (Non EC-countries)	13.13	4.22	13.85	4.47	5.48	5.48	20.37	6.08	47.08	36.02
Russia & C.I.S. Countries	28.22	9.11	182.10	58.76	545.29	545.29	147.57	44.05	-18.96	-25.03
African Countries	25.89	8.35	45.91	14.80	77.33	77.33	39.56	11.81	-13.83	-20.20
Middle East Countries	123.84	39.96	161.49	52.10	30.40	30.40	127.95	38.19	-20.77	-26.77
Singapore Hongkong & other South Asian Countries	320.35	103.34	470.04	151.62	46.73	46.73	931.46	278.05	98.17	83.39
Japan Korea & other Far East Countries	22.09	7.13	48.47	15.64	119.42	119.42	78.70	23.49	62.37	50.19
Australia & other Oceanic Countries	4.78	1.54	16.22	5.23	239.33	239.33	19.82	5.92	22.19	13.19
Total	1078.00	347.75	1507.00	436.13	39.80	39.80	2400.00	716.42	59.26	47.37

Average Exchange Rate 1993-94 & 1994-95 1 US$ = Rs. 31.00 1995-96 1 US$ = Rs. 33.50

(Source Electronics & Computer Software Export Promotion Council)

Dues of Coal Companies

*398. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total outstanding dues of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and its subsidiaries from all sections of consumers as on March 1, 1997;

(b) the percentage of this amount due from the State Electricity Boards and other power utilities; and

(c) effective steps being taken to realise these outstandings particularly from the State Electricity Boards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The total outstanding dues from all sectors of consumers to Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries as on 1.3.1997 is Rs. 3584.35 crores (provisional).

(b) The dues from the Power houses (both SEBs and other Power utilities) accounted for nearly 80% of the total dues.

(c) Following steps have been taken by the Government/Coal India Limited to recover the outstanding dues from State Electricity Boards :-

(i) Coal India Limited (CIL) have been advised to supply coal to power utilities only against advance payment or Letter of Credit. Cash and Carry Scheme has been implemented with greater rigour since 1.1.1997.

(ii) Recovery of dues by way of adjustment against energy bills is also being done in respect of certain power utilities.

(iii) State Governments have been requested to persuade/enable SEBs to clear their outstanding dues at the earliest.

(iv) Recovery from Plan Assistance to National Capital Territory Delhi towards dues to CIL and the Railways against coal supplies to Badarpur Thermal Power Stations was made in 1995-96. This is being continued for 1996-97.

(v) Umpires have been appointed for resolving the disputed dues between coal companies and State Electricity Boards.